

Nomination Referrals—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the nominations of Kent D. Talbert, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, Department of Education, and Horace A. Thompson, of Mississippi, to be a Member of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission, be recommitted to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. **Page S1984**

Messages From the House: **Pages S1958–59**

Measures Referred: **Page S1959**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S1959**

Petitions and Memorials: **Pages S1959–64**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S1964–65**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1965–66**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S1966–72

Additional Statements: **Pages S1957–58**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S1972–83**

Authorities for Committees to Meet:
Pages S1983–84

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—36) **Page S1944**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 5:43 p.m., until 10 a.m., on Monday, March 13, 2006. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S1984–85.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

PACKERS AND STOCKYARDS ACT

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Department of Agriculture's management and oversight of the Packers and Stockyards Act, focusing on competitiveness in livestock and poultry markets, and developing and sharing information on competitive conditions with key stakeholders, after receiving testimony from James E. Link, Administrator, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, and Phyllis K. Fong, Inspector General, both of the Department of Agriculture; and Daniel Bertoni, Acting Director, Natural Resources and Environment, Government Accountability Office.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget es-

timates for fiscal year 2007 for the Department of Agriculture, after receiving testimony from Mike Johanns, Secretary, Charles Connor, Deputy Secretary, Keith Collins, Chief Economist, and W. Scott Steele, Budget Officer, all of the Department of Agriculture.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the proposed supplemental funding request for additional resources to assist in ongoing military, diplomatic, and intelligence operations in the Global War on Terror; stabilization and counter-insurgency activities in Iraq and Afghanistan, and other humanitarian assistance, after receiving testimony from Donald H. Rumsfeld, Secretary of Defense; Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State; General Peter Pace, USMC, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff; and General John Abizaid, USA, Commander, U.S. Central Command.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded open and closed hearings to examine the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2007 and the future years defense program, focusing on the naval workforce, and projection of naval power in the global war on terror, after receiving testimony from Donald C. Winter, Secretary of the Navy; Admiral Michael G. Mullen, USN, Chief of Naval Operations; and General Michael W. Hagee, USMC, Commandant of the Marine Corps.

SECURITIES MARKETS SELF-REGULATION

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee held a hearing to examine self-regulatory organizations in the securities markets, focusing on strengths and weaknesses of the current system, conflicts of interest, and eliminating excessive market data fees, receiving testimony from John A. Thain, New York Stock Exchange, Inc., Robert Glauber, National Association of Securities Dealers, both of New York, New York; Marc E. Lackritz, Securities Industry Association, Ann Yerger, Council of Institutional Investors, and Richard Ferlauto, American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL–CIO, all of Washington, D.C.; and Henry T.C. Hu, University of Texas at Austin School of Law.

Hearing recessed subject to the call.

2007 BUDGET

Committee on the Budget: Committee ordered favorably reported an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and including the

appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 and 2008 through 2011.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Vice Admiral Thad W. Allen, of Maryland, to be Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard, and Admiral, Department of Homeland Security, who was introduced by Senator McCain, and Robert M. McDowell, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission, who was introduced by Senator Allen, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Raymond L. Orbach, of California, to be Under Secretary for Science, Alexander A. Karsner, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, who was introduced by Senator Allen, and Dennis R. Spurgeon, of Florida, to be Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy, all of the Department of Energy, and David Longly Bernhardt, of Colorado, to be Solicitor of the Department of the Interior, after each nominee testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate Change, and Nuclear Safety concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, focusing on activities to implement the provisions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 initiatives to meet challenges posed by today's nuclear arena, and current and anticipated new reactor licensing activities and human capital initiatives, after receiving testimony from Nils J. Diaz, Chairman, and Edward McGaffigan, Jr., Jeffrey S. Merrifield, Gregory B. Jaczko, and Peter B. Lyons, each a Commissioner, all of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

FEDERAL PAYMENTS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security concluded a hearing to examine Federal agencies' progress relating to reporting improper payments, focusing on the success or failure of agencies to report and/or reduce improper payments in fiscal year 2005 performance and accountability reports, and to discuss whether or not the various ways in which agencies measure improper payments is accurately depicting the magnitude of the problem, after receiving testimony from Linda M. Combs,

Controller, Office of Federal Financial Management, Office of Management and Budget; McCoy Williams, Director, Financial Management and Assurance, Government Accountability Office; Mark Everson, Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service; James B. Lockhart, Deputy Commissioner, Social Security Administration; Charles Johnson, Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Budget, Technology and Finance; and Samuel T. Mok, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Labor.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Donald J. DeGabrielle, Jr., of Texas, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Texas, John Charles Richter, of Oklahoma, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Oklahoma, Amul R. Thapar, of Kentucky, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Kentucky, and Mauricio J. Tamargo, of Florida, to be Chairman of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission of the United States, all of the Department of Justice.

Also, Committee continued markup of proposed legislation providing for comprehensive immigration reform, but did not complete action thereon, and recessed subject to the call.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION BUDGET

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2007 for the Small Business Administration, after receiving testimony from Hector V. Barreto, Administrator, Small Business Administration.

VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS

Committee on Veterans Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the legislative presentations of certain veteran's organizations, after receiving testimony from Randy L. Pleva, Sr., Paralyzed Veterans of America, Larry Belote, Blinded Veterans Association, and David L. Magidson, Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America, all of Washington, D.C.; Richard C. Schneider, Non Commissioned Officers Association of the United States of America, Alexandria, Virginia; and James D. Randles, Military Order of the Purple Heart of the U.S.A., Inc., Springfield, Virginia.

LONG-TERM CARE FINANCING

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine how to prepare Americans for long-term care financing, focusing on awareness and incentives to encourage people to take responsibility for long term care needs, after receiving testimony

from Robert F. Danbeck, Associate Director, Human Resources Products and Services, Office of Personnel Management; Eileen J. Tell, Long Term Care Group, Inc., Natick, Massachusetts; Malcolm Cheung, Long-Term Care Prudential Financial, Livingston, New

Jersey, on behalf of American Council of Life Insurers; Joanne Vidinsky, Alzheimer's Association, San Francisco, California; and Robert B. Friedland, Center on an Aging Society, Washington, D.C.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 28 public bills, H.R. 4911–4938; and 8 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 355; and H. Res. 715–721 were introduced. **Pages H866–68**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H868–69**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Dent to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H793**

Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2005: The House passed H.R. 2829, to reauthorize the Office of National Drug Control Policy Act, by a yea-and-nay vote of 399 yeas to 5 nays, Roll No. 38. **Pages H802–47**

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment and shall be considered as read.

Pages H811–46

Agreed to:

Souder Manager's amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 109–387) that makes technical and conforming changes to account for changes in law within the jurisdiction of those Committees that waived formal business meetings on the bill. The amendment strikes the mandatory restrictions on certification of budgets related to enforcement in certain contexts of the "Drug Free Student Loan" provision; **Pages H820–21**

Souder amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 109–387) which directs the Director of ONDCP, in consultation with other federal agencies, to convene an international summit on the threat of methamphetamine and synthetic drug precursor chemicals. The Director shall do so to intensify and coordinate an effective international response along with other affected countries in order to prevent methamphetamine production and precursor diversion. The amendment provides that the Director

must carry out the amendment within 12 months from the enactment of the bill; **Pages H821–22**

Boozman amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 109–387) which ensures that the effects of illicit drug abuse on children of substance abusers are considered in the annual National Drug Control Strategy. The amendment requires ONDCP to conduct a study and the President to report to Congress on drug court programs that conduct hearings in non-traditional public places, such as schools; **Pages H822–24**

Cuellar amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 109–387) that directs the ONDCP to conduct a study of the incidences of kidnapped, killed, and missing Americans along the U.S.-Mexico border and report to Congress on how to prevent such crimes; **Page H827**

Filner amendment (No. 6 printed in H. Rept. 109–387) that instructs the ONDCP to develop a strategy to combat border tunnels for drug trafficking and to recommend to Congress a criminal penalty for digging or using border tunnels for such acts; **Pages H827–28**

Graves amendment (No. 7 printed in H. Rept. 109–387) which requires the ONDCP to submit a report to Congress explaining its participation in and support of a conference addressing harm reduction in methamphetamine abuse, not prevention. Additionally, ONDCP must explain what management and reporting systems ONDCP will change to ensure that the Administration is more supportive of efforts fighting the methamphetamine epidemic; **Pages H828–30**

Jackson-Lee of Texas amendment (No. 9 printed in H. Rept. 109–387) which requires the ONDCP to perform an assessment of illicit drug and alcohol use by children, and appropriate intervention methods. The amendment requires ONDCP to report to Congress on its assessment. The amendment specifies items to assess that were not considered by the National Survey on Drug Use and Health, such as the role of Federal, state, and local criminal justice systems in providing intervention; **Pages H832–33**